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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the set of claims of the Application, please amend or retain each claim as hereinafter indicated.

1. (currently amended) A method of processing a plurality of call detail records (CDRs) each indicative of a call transaction on a telecommunications network, said method comprising the steps of:

preliminarily processing said CDRs according to which telecommunications service providers supported the call transactions indicated in said CDRs;

in response to a user request from a remote user terminal, receiving said plurality of CDRs at a first controller, each of said CDRs having a data structure including a plurality of fields containing at least one character;

selecting a first sorting field from said plurality of fields and grouping said plurality of CDRs as a function of data within said first sorting field, said first sorting field being user selected as a carrier identification field;

thereafter analyzing a user-selected second sorting field within each of said CDRs within a group of CDRs sorted by said first sorting field;

generating a customized carrier-specific report for each of said grouped CDRs as a function of data within said user-selected second sorting field;

delivering said customized carrier-specific report to said remote user terminal;
and

presenting said customized carrier-specific report to said user at said remote user terminal according to user-selected format preferences, said customized carrier-specific report being selectively utile for monitoring network usage and making billing statements.

2. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of CDRs are generated at a second controller coupled to said telecommunications network and located remote from said first controller.

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3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of fields includes a plurality of subfields.

4. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said call transaction is a long distance calling card transaction.

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said user-selected second sorting field is an enhanced service identifier field including at least one subfield selected from the group consisting of a message store and forward subfield, a directory assistance subfield, and a conference calling subfield.

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of receiving said plurality of CDRs at said first controller is executed periodically at daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly intervals.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:

analyzing a user-selected third sorting field within each of said CDRs within a group of CDRs sorted by said first sorting field; and

generating a customized report for each of said grouped CDRs as a function of data within said user-selected second and third sorting fields.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the step of generating said customized report includes the step of determining and displaying a system variable as a function of data within at least one of said user-selected second and third sorting fields.

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10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein said user-selected second sorting field contains data indicative of Total Call Attempts, and said system variable corresponds to Successful Call Attempts.

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said customized carrier-specific report includes transaction activity data and information for an originating trunk group and a terminating trunk group.

12. (currently amended) A call detail record (CDR) processing system for a telecommunications network, said system comprising:

a system cluster in operative communication with said telecommunications network for generating a plurality of CDRs each indicative of a call transaction on said telecommunications network;

a server-based splitter in operative communication with said system cluster for preliminarily processing said CDRs according to which telecommunications service providers supported the call transactions indicated in said CDRs;

a production database server in operative communication with said system cluster for periodically receiving and storing said CDRs as periodically received from at least one of said system cluster and said splitter;

a user access server in operative communication with said production database server, said user access server programmed to (i) select a first sorting field from a plurality of fields within each CDR and group said plurality of CDRs as a function of data within said first sorting field, wherein said first sorting field is user selected as a carrier identification field, (ii) analyze a user-selected second sorting field within each of said CDRs within a group of CDRs sorted by said first sorting field, and (iii) generate a customized carrier-specific report for each of said grouped CDRs as a function of data within said user-selected second sorting field; and

a user access terminal in operative communication with said user access server for presenting said customized carrier-specific report to a user according to user-selected format preferences, said customized carrier-specific report being selectively utile for monitoring network usage and making billing statements.

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13. (previously presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein said system cluster comprises a plurality of servers.

14. (previously presented) A system according to claim 13, said system comprising at least one additional cluster located remote from said system cluster and in operative communication with said telecommunications network for generating CDRs indicative of call transactions on said telecommunications network.

15. (previously presented) A system according to claim 14, said system comprising a master database in operative communication with said system cluster and each said additional cluster for storing said CDRs generated by said system cluster and each said additional cluster.

16. (previously presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein said system cluster is a calling card system cluster for generating a CDR in response to each calling card transaction on said telecommunications network.

17. (previously presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein said CDR fields include at least one field selected from the group consisting of a Call Type Offered field, a System Failure field, a Rate Class field, a Method of Recording field, a Message Type field, and a Call Statistics field.

18. (previously presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said Call Statistics field includes at least one subfield selected from the group consisting of a message store and forward subfield, a directory assistance subfield, and a conference calling subfield.

19. (previously presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said Rate Class field includes at least one subfield selected from the group consisting of a person-

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to-person subfield, an operator station-to-station subfield, a dialed station subfield, and an operator assisted dialing subfield.

20. (previously presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said Call Type Offered field includes at least one subfield selected from the group consisting of a local exchange carrier calling card subfield and a proprietary calling card subfield.